

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA,
HELD THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2014

The Honorable Council of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, met in regular session on Thursday, January 9, 2014, at 6 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, there being present:

President:	Russell
Councilpersons:	Culver, Olshefski, Showers, Kling
Mayor:	Battle
City Administrator:	Hamilton
City Attorney:	Joffrion
City Clerk-Treasurer:	Hagood

President Russell called the meeting to order

Minister Carol Landry led the invocation; Councilman Kling led the pledge of allegiance.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Approval of Minutes.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council on December 19, 2013, were approved as submitted.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Resolutions and Special Recognitions.

President Russell recognized Mayor Battle.

Mayor Battle asked Chief Harry Hobbs to come forward, noting that he wore many hats in the City. He stated that he was in charge of Public Relations for the Police Department and that he also wore the hat for a lot of promotions and good

things that happened in the community. He stated that Chief Hobbs had some friends here at this time that he would like to recognize, noting that this was part of an ongoing program they would be doing throughout the year.

Mayor Battle asked Chief Hobbs to come forward. He noted that Command Sergeant Ricky Yates, Retired, was one of these persons and welcomed him to the meeting.

Chief Hobbs stated that they were very excited about launching a new program at this time, noting that it was actually an extension of CAFY, Community Awareness for Youth, which most persons knew was one of the largest youth events in Madison County, where they reached out to youth with Four Pillars of Success: Health, Education, Careers, and Finances.

Chief Hobbs stated that one of their initiatives was how they could make this good feeling go all year, so that a group of shareholders and himself had gotten together and launched the Young Citizen of the Month program, to recognize the young citizen who had gone above and beyond. He stated that everyone was aware that when the youth did great things, the community continued to grow and was a great place to live.

Chief Hobbs asked Ms. Alanis Craig, the CAFY Young Citizen of the month, and her grandmother, Ms. Lillian Strickland, to come forward, as well as the following persons: Mr. Tom Panucci, General Manager of Star 99.1, and Producer Bob Reznikov of Star 99.1; Command Sergeant Ricky Yates, Retired, of DynCorp International; Ms. Sara Crocker of the City of

Huntsville Human Relations Commission; and Mr. Kenny Anderson.

Mayor Battle stated that there was a broad variety of the community present at this time, including the media, partners in the commercial industries, and also the Human Relations Commission, represented by Ms. Crocker. He recognized Ms. Crocker.

Ms. Crocker stated that they would like to present a certificate, which she noted stated that CAFY, Star 99.1, and the Human Relations Commission of the City of Huntsville were proud to honor Alanis Craig as the CAFY/Star 99.1 Young Citizen of the Month.

Chief Hobbs stated that Ms. Craig had given countless hours to The Caring House, CASA, United Way, et cetera. He stated that it had been a very arduous selection process, that many applications had come in and it had been a difficult decision. He stated that for Ms. Craig, it was a home run because of all she had done in the community. He stated that Ms. Craig had not been asking for any recognition, that she had just been going about doing her business, and stated that this was what was so appreciated. He stated that the program was set up so that anyone besides a family member, whether it would be a member of the clergy, a local civic leader, a teacher, a councilman, et cetera, could recommend someone for what they saw that person do. He stated that then the sponsor would escort and shepherd their nominee through the entire process. He stated that he just wanted to let persons know what

Ms. Craig had done in all the hours she had donated, so that persons could get a grasp of this.

Mr. Yates stated that on behalf of DynCorp International, he would like to present Ms. Craig with a plaque honoring her for receiving this award. He thanked her for her commitment and dedication to the community and being a guiding example to others. He stated that this was being presented with great appreciation from DynCorp International. He stated that they also had for her a speaker she could hook up to an MP3 player or computer, as well as a bag of miscellaneous items, and a \$100 Visa money card.

Mr. Yates stated to Ms. Strickland that he had just realized that he had worked with her at AMCOM and remembered Ms. Craig from when she was a very small child. He stated that it was certainly a pleasure to see her at this time in this manner.

Mr. Panucci stated that on behalf of Rocket City Broadcasting, which he noted owned Star 99.1, he wanted to say that they were certainly proud to be part of this program. He stated that he had a bag containing many items for Ms. Craig which he would present to her. He stated that was very proud to be a part of this program recognizing youth in the area such as Ms. Craig, who usually did not get the recognition they deserved. He stated that they were certainly proud to be a part of this and to be able to talk about good things that were happening with the youth in the community. He congratulated

Ms. Craig.

Chief Hobbs stated that he would like to present Ms. Craig with the CAFY Coin of Excellence. He continued that Ms. Craig would also be eligible for the CAFY Young Citizen of the Year. He stated that each CAFY Young Citizen of the Month could vie for the CAFY Young Citizen of the Year.

Mayor Battle stated that the youth were so valuable and it was an honor to be able to recognize them for doing great things in the community. He continued that there were hundreds and thousands of people doing great things in the community and that Ms. Craig's efforts had shown above everyone else's. He congratulated her for this outstanding achievement.

Councilman Kling read and introduced a resolution congratulating Mrs. Bettye Ann Showers upon her retirement from the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Life Cycle Management Command (AMCOM) on January 3, 2014, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-1)

Councilman Kling moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Culver and was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Kling read from the resolution, recognizing Ms. Showers, the wife of Councilman Richard Showers, for her outstanding career and many personal achievements.

Councilman Kling stated that the resolution would be presented at Mrs. Showers' retirement luncheon at The Summit, Redstone Arsenal, on January 16, 2014.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution honoring National Baptist Laymen Junior Laymen Director Alvin Moore upon his induction into the Alabama High School 2014 Hall of Fame, having served 40-plus years in a variety of roles, as teacher, coach, and athletic director in Alabama high schools, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-2)

Councilman Showers moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Showers stated that on January 23 in Birmingham, Alabama, he would present the resolution on behalf of the Mayor and the Council.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution in recognition of the 29th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Breakfast, sponsored by the Delta Theta Lambda Education Foundation of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., with Pastor Keith Norman as the keynote speaker, and Mr. Eddie Compton of Montgomery, Alabama, as the special guest artist, in the North Hall of the Von Braun Center on Monday, January 20, 2014, at 8 a.m., as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-3)

Councilman Showers moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by President Russell.

Councilman Showers stated that he would present the

resolution at the event to take place on January 20, on behalf of the Mayor and the Council.

President Russell asked Mr. Jim Powers to come forward, stating that they had a very special presentation.

President Russell stated to Mr. Powers that he appreciated Mr. Powers coming and sharing this program with the Council and the citizens and asked Mr. Powers to explain the program.

Mr. Powers stated that he was with the Council of International Educational Exchange and that they worked with high school exchange students from all over the world. He stated that they had students all over the country and that most of them came for an academic year and spent the year with a host family. He stated that his family had hosted eight students over the last few years, so that he could say first hand what a marvelous experience this was for everyone involved.

Mr. Powers stated that there were a few of the area students present in the audience at this time and introduced them and asked them to stand and be recognized.

Mr. Powers stated that they were always looking for host families for students and stated that if anyone was interested in this, they could contact him through the City Council office.

President Russell stated that the Council would hold a Personnel Hearing on the following Thursday, January 16, 2014, at 5 p.m., in the Council Chambers.

Councilman Showers stated that his daughter, Felicia Brown, was present at the meeting and he would like to acknowledge her at this time. He stated that he had been at a reception for the new football coach for Alabama A&M, James Spady, whom he noted would be leading Alabama A&M University forward in a progressive way, and that his daughter had also been present and advised him that she would be coming by the Council meeting. He thanked her for coming.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Public Hearings to be Set.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution to set a public hearing on an ordinance rezoning property lying on the north side of Carl T. Jones Drive and west of Ledges Drive from Residence 2-A District and Neighborhood Business C-1 District to Highway Business C-4 District, at the February 27, 2014, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-4)

Councilman Showers moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by President Russell and was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Showers read and introduced Ordinance No. 14-5, rezoning property lying on the north side of Carl T. Jones Drive and west of Ledges Drive from Residence 2-A District and Neighborhood Business C-1 District to Highway Business C-4 District.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda

was Communications from the Public. He stated that persons would have three minutes to address the Council.

Mr. Russell Gay, 15008 Carlisle Drive, appeared before the Council, stating that he was a veteran of the United States Marine Corps and that he volunteered with the group that distributed items to the homeless, as well as providing conversation. He stated that, as he understood it, the City had an emergency management agency that worked with the Red Cross in determining when shelters might be full and the City would need to take action. He stated that the City had recently asked the North Alabama Coalition for the Homeless, NACH, to check with all the organizations and shelters and that NACH had been told they could handle capacity. He continued that the key word was "capacity."

Mr. Gay stated that it seemed that they were operating under the assumption that shelters were built to hold enough people and that they would never hit capacity, and then when they did and there was word up the chain that capacity had been reached and persons were turned away, it was too late to take any further action. He stated that he was aware that there were reports that perhaps one center or another center had a couple of beds open but he did not believe the response should have been that because there were a few beds open there was no need to try to do anything to help out the homeless. He stated that many shelters had restrictions, from soberness to actively participating in programs, and that some kicked persons out at

6 a.m. He stated that there were many reasons why homeless persons did not go to so-and-so shelter.

Mr. Gay stated that the bottom line was that he did not believe they should judge the homeless in deciding who they were not going to house. He stated that, for example, persons from Grateful Life Community Church drove around looking for the homeless to bring in and they had found a man who was drunk and did not know where he was. He continued that many shelters would have turned this man away but that Grateful Life had let him sleep it off and had fed him when he awoke.

Mr. Gay stated that it was frigid recently and that he believed basic warmth should have been provided for everyone. He stated that it seemed that it should not take much to open a building, ask for volunteers, and provide a way to get the homeless out of the woods for a few nights. He stated that most of the neighboring communities had had warming centers open but Huntsville had only had Grateful Life Church. He stated that some of these places in the neighboring cities might have been churches and that it was easy to suggest that churches should have done this, along with the organizations that were in place. He questioned why Huntsville should be a city that was reactive rather than proactive in this regard. He stated that organizations provided many things for the homeless, food, temporary shelter, counseling, et cetera, but that not enough basic warmth had been provided in this situation. He stated that the homeless were humans and that

they should be shown that Huntsville cared by thinking out of the box, whether they would be using current space or empty buildings.

Mr. Gay stated that the second item he wanted to address was First Stop. He stated that this was a local donation-and-grant-based, not-for-profit organization, which, as he understood it, had no authority over public land or State-owned property under the jurisdiction of the DOT. He stated that there was a citizen who wanted to pay out of his pocket the expense to put in and maintain port-a-potties at Tent City, which he noted would solve the issue that had gotten the ball rolling to close Tent City, being sanitation. He continued that this citizen had been told "No" by First Stop on this. He asked how this aligned with their mission to enhance the needs of the homeless and provide basic life-supporting needs pursuant to the general health and welfare of the homeless. He questioned who First Stop was getting their direction from since they had no authority over the land nor authority to tell a private citizen what they could do. He stated that First Stop was a public entity and that the public would like some answers concerning this, as to where First Stop got this authority.

Mr. Rusty Loiselle, Hearthstone Circle, appeared before the Council, stating that there had been a cold weather snap earlier in the week and stated that the Council most likely believed that the Rescue Mission and the Salvation Army opened

their doors to the homeless, to everybody, but noted that this had not happened. He asked why it was that a good portion of the cities in Alabama had warming centers but that Huntsville did not. He named several cities that had opened their doors at this time but noted that Huntsville had not.

Mr. Loiselle suggested that the Council members start listening to some of the persons in his group who went out every day to assist the homeless, noting that if they listened to these persons rather than listening to the people they were pumping tons of money to through the grant process, they perhaps could get some common-sense ideas concerning the homeless situation in the city. He continued that it was possible that the persons who went out every day might actually have some good ideas.

Mr. Loiselle stated that at the prior Council meeting, Chief Morris of the Police Department had told everyone they were not going to run anyone out of the camps. He continued that the very next day, Sgt. Roberts, with a few other officers, were in the camps telling these homeless people they had a few days and they had to get out. He stated that the Chief had also said that a lot of the homeless wanted to live out there, but noted that the fact was that a rare few did not mind but that most of them had given up trying because they had been turned away when they were trying to get a job or help.

Mr. Loiselle stated that a few days prior, a policeman had been in Tent City and had given the homeless a hard time about

having too much firewood. He asked since when an officer had the right to tell these people if they were allowed to stay warm or not. He asked when the harassment would stop.

Mr. Loiselle stated that First Stop was telling people, "You can't go here unless we tell you it's okay." He stated that the last time he had checked, that was State-owned property, run by the DOT, and that First Stop did not have anything to do with it. He continued that First Stop was saying that the City Council had told them that no port-a-potties would go into Tent City. He stated that he would like to know if this was the case.

Mr. Loiselle stated that he would like to thank Councilman Showers for his help in avoiding a major lawsuit against one of the local facilities, noting that the lawsuit would have also included the City of Huntsville. He stated that his group had shown up unannounced in Councilman's Showers' office and that he had graciously opened his doors to an impromptu meeting. He thanked Councilman Showers for standing up for the homeless veteran involved, noting that he might speak softly but he had a message heard loud and clear.

Mr. Loiselle stated that he would also like to thank the Green Team, Joy McKee, for cleaning up all the illegal dump sites that were dumped at the homeless camps by local neighborhood residents. He stated that his group had been working with them to clean up the trash so that they could look more responsible and they had been doing a great job on this.

Mr. Loiselles stated that he would like to extend a personal invitation to any or all of the City officials to come out with his group on any Saturday and go around to the camps, where they handed out water, food, clothing, et cetera, and just visit with a few of the people. He stated that they would find brilliant people, kind, respectable people, that were just happy to have anything that was given to them to make their lives a little less miserable.

Ms. Tara Bunyan, 1222 Kingsway, appeared before the Council, stating that she would also like to thank Councilman Showers for helping out the veteran who had had some issues. She stated that she had not written a poem for this meeting, so that the Council members would be spared from that. She stated that she did want to say that one could judge the true size of a man by what made him angry. She continued that she had to tell herself that when she was driving on the Parkway and someone cut her off.

Ms. Bunyan stated that she had a question from the prior meeting, when the Council had addressed the Chief of Police about what was going on with the homeless and how they were trying to decide on some of the problems. She stated that she believed Chief Morris had mentioned something about Oxford House and stated that she was wondering if that was the same Oxford House that was posting on craigslist for \$90 per week housing. She stated that apparently they had some vacancies. She continued that she would like to know if that

\$90-per-week cost was also something that the homeless would have to pay. She stated that perhaps someone could get with her on this. She stated that that was \$360 a month and that when that cost was added to the cost of these persons getting benefits through the different agencies, noting that the figure she had been quoted was approximately \$37 a week, that would be another \$160 a month for a homeless person to pay. She stated that this might be why some of the homeless did not have accommodations, because they could not afford this.

Ms. Bunyan stated that she also wanted to mention that she had seen on AL.com that a warming station at Boutwell Auditorium in Birmingham was to be open Sunday through Wednesday. She stated that when it appeared cold weather was on its way into the metro area, the warming station was open in Birmingham Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, that it opened at 6 p.m. and was open until 7 a.m. for the homeless in Birmingham. She stated that she believed some of the other speakers had mentioned that Huntsville had not had a facility.

Ms. Bunyan stated that she was surprised there were not more churches in Huntsville that were concerned about the homeless, noting that she believed that would be because they were unaware of the problem. She stated that the homeless were scattered throughout Huntsville, some at Tent City and some at other camps, so that the churches might be unaware of the magnitude of persons that were actually out there. She stated that she would like to go on public record to the churches in

the city concerning this. She stated that she did not have a Doctor of Divinity degree but she could read, and that she would like to remind them that when Jesus fed the 4,000, and the 5,000, he did not ask them for an ID, he did not ask them if they had drunk the night before. She continued that in a group of 5,000, she was sure there were persons there who had been partying the night before. She stated that, however, Jesus just fed them.

Ms. Bunyan stated that she would like to take this opportunity to ask the churches to step in, noting that if there was another cold snap, they would definitely be needed.

Councilman Kling stated that he had been advised that during the recent cold spell, some of the police officers had actually gone out into the various homeless camps to let the homeless know that there were shelters that were available to take them. He continued that he believed the police were going out and attempting to find folks, so that they knew where they were, and that they offered to bring them in. He stated that he believed some of the homeless had come in, although there were some people who refused or did not want to come in.

Mayor Battle stated that the Administration had received email from all the Council members over the weekend. He stated that they had started working on this situation on Friday, knowing that the cold weather was coming in. He stated that they had talked to EMA and to Parks and Recreation about making sure they had facilities that could open if necessary. He

stated that this was all run through the Emergency Management Agency, noting that they worked with the Red Cross, that they had a contract with Red Cross, and that in emergency situations, they would put anyone who needed a place in a shelter into facilities that had bathroom facilities, shower facilities, and feeding facilities. He stated that most of the time this was churches with which they had contracts.

Mayor Battle stated that they had monitored the situation through Sunday, noting that it had not gotten really cold until about 10 to 12 on Sunday night. He continued that on Monday morning, Mr. Benion had checked with the North Alabama Coalition for the Homeless to see what the situation was there, and Kenny Anderson had checked with both the Downtown Rescue Mission and the Salvation Army, to see what the situation was, and both of them had reported that they were not at capacity, that they were about 25 percent under capacity. He stated that the North Alabama Coalition for the Homeless had kind of reflected the same thing in the conversations they had had with them. He stated that they had also sent a police officer down to check and make sure the people who were out in the 12- to 14-degree weather were taken care of. He stated that the officer had reported that some of them did not want to come in, did not want to leave their homes where they were, but that for those that would move, they had offered free bus tokens so that they could get to the shelter areas.

Mayor Battle stated that he felt they had had a very good

response by the City, by Emergency Management, by Community Development, and by the Council and the Mayor's office, to make sure that they took care of those persons that needed to be taken care of.

Mayor Battle stated that they had monitored further on Tuesday and Wednesday, just to make sure that everybody was taken care of. He stated that one of the worst things for a community was for conditions to get such as they had done previously, noting that he could remember a few years prior when someone had frozen, which he noted was a horrific thing. He stated that they had done everything they could to make sure they were taking care of persons. He stated that both the Salvation Army and the Rescue Mission were accepting anyone that came up, and that they were also allowing persons to stay during the day, that they were not turning them out during the day because of the cold weather, so that they would actually have a place to stay and be warm during that time.

Ms. Meg Tilden, 2640 Blue Spring Road, appeared before the Council, stating that she would like to turn her time over to Mr. Rusty Loiselle.

President Russell stated that she would not be able to do that but she was welcome to speak to the Council herself.

Ms. Tilden stated that she was sorry but that what had just been stated was not the truth, that she knew for a fact that people were turned away. She stated that she just wished the churches would have stepped up in this matter. She stated

that they should not have to be on contract to do this, that she was certain Jesus did not have a contract. She stated that the Grateful Life Church had done everything they could possibly do in this situation. She asked the City to please think of the homeless and the elderly.

Ms. Jackie Reed, Jack Coleman Drive, appeared before the Council, expressing appreciation for the Council allowing public input. She stated that she also wanted to thank Mayor Battle, noting that he had come to her workplace to bring her a Christmas present and that she certainly appreciated that.

Ms. Reed stated that it made her sad that the City had lost the Boeing jobs, possibly because of the State and the City not really caring too much about unions. She stated that in the past she had worked where there were unions and that there were times when the employees did need a voice and needed to be heard.

Ms. Reed stated that she had some concerns about the Holiday Inn property, noting that she thought the City of Huntsville owned the Holiday Inn. She stated that she was not certain who owned it or what they were going to do with it but that she would like to be advised on this.

Ms. Reed asked if the City was intending to purchase the Coca Cola plant, noting that hopefully this would not be for a ball field at that location. She stated that she had been told that Utilities was over there working on that property.

Ms. Reed stated that she saw there was an item on the agenda for this meeting concerning Big Spring Partners. She stated that when they got to that issue, which she noted was 15.s on the agenda, she would like to be advised as to what this was.

Ms. Reed stated that she understood Walmart was tearing down buildings at the location at which they intended to build, so that she guessed Walmart was going in at that location.

Ms. Reed stated that the chicken ordinance had not come through the Council yet, noting that she would be back on the chicken ordinance, that they were not through with it. She asked the Council to not let the chickens come in the city.

President Russell stated to Ms. Reed that the City of Huntsville owned the property that the Holiday Inn was located on, and that the Coca Cola Bottling Plant owned the Coca Cola property. He stated further that he was not exactly sure who the owner was but that it was the same owner that had always owned it.

Pastor T.C. Johnson, 1800 Sparkman Drive, appeared before the Council, stating that he would like to congratulate Mayor Battle on his campaign for the additional one-cent sales tax, noting that it was a brilliant strategy. He stated that his only problem was how long the Administration had known about the deal, noting that some persons were saying that the deal had been known about prior to the campaign being started. He stated that if that were the case, then it would be

manipulation and deception and that he did not believe the Mayor would get involved with that. He stated that, however, that was an idea that was being circulated. He stated that what this said was before the campaign started, persons knew that at the end of the day they were going to have to give some money, but it had been used in a way to come down to the last moment and then switch and say the State would make a match, but they had known this all the time. He stated that he knew the Mayor would not use politics that way but that some did. He stated that if Mayor Battle intended to run for Mayor again, it would certainly look good to be able to say he had done this and Huntsville was looking great, that that would be a great bonus.

Pastor Johnson stated that it kept being suggested that there was going to be a new Chief of Police, and that also on the Mayor's banner would be, "I appointed the first female Chief of Police." He stated that whether this was true or not, he had just thought he would bring it up.

Pastor Johnson stated that every year he asked for some statistics and that at this time he had some that were already alarming. He stated that he did not understand them but that he was seeking understanding. He stated that the Council never seemed to budge when he showed that three ZIP codes in the city got more than half of the citations, in six months, that approximately 30 percent of the population got more than 50 percent of the citations. He stated that he had been

talking about this for years and that all kinds of bogus stuff had come up about why this was. He stated that it appeared that the persons who were being affected by this were insignificant, noting that if they had voices like the voices that came from South Parkway, that at least the City would look into it and tell them why it was that 30 percent of the population received more than 50 percent of the citations. He stated that in the three different ZIP codes, the numbers were much lower, but they did get most of the citations. He stated that this was not being looked into by the Council.

Pastor Johnson stated that he did want to thank the Chief of Police, noting that one thing to the Mayor's credit and to the Chief's credit was that they had not had a young African American killed in the custody of the police since the new Chief had taken his position. He stated that, however, there was still more work to do.

Pastor Johnson stated that while this was perhaps not a significant issue to the Mayor, it was a significant issue for people who were the minority and had less income than any of the other citizens. He stated that it would not look good for Huntsville when the information would be told to Boeing or other companies that it was okay to be in Huntsville and drive if you were white, but that the statistics showed that more than likely if you drove and were black, you would get a ticket.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda

was Huntsville Utilities Items. He stated that Councilman Olshefski would recuse himself on these items and abstain from voting on them.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing approval to purchase license and software support (PR#10139807) (Utilities: Electric), as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-6)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

President Russell called for a roll-call vote on the above resolution, and the following vote resulted:

AYES: Culver, Kling, Showers, Russell

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Olshefski

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing approval to purchase extended memory and storage ability for computer system upgrades (PR#10139810) (Utilities: Electric), as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-7)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

President Russell called for a roll-call vote on the above resolution, and the following vote resulted:

AYES: Culver, Kling, Showers, Russell

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Olshefski

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Tri-Party agreement among TVA, Huntsville, and Adtran, Inc., allowing Adtran to participate in the Valley Investment Initiative (VII) (Utilities: Electric), as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-8)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

President Russell called for a roll-call vote on the above resolution, and the following vote resulted:

AYES: Culver, Kling, Showers, Russell

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Olshefski

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a proposed New Delivery Point Agreement, covering arrangements for the establishment of a new delivery point of power at the Charity Lane 161-kV substation (Utilities: Electric), as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-9)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

President Russell called for a roll-call vote on the above

resolution, and the following vote resulted:

AYES: Culver, Kling, Showers, Russell

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Olshefski

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Board Appointments to be Voted On.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution to reappoint Dr. Oscar Montgomery to the Public Building Authority of the City of Huntsville, for a term to expire December 14, 2019, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-10)

Councilman Showers moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Culver.

Councilman Kling stated that an individual had contacted him expressing interest in this position and that he would abstain on this vote at this time.

President Russell called for the vote on the above resolution, and the following vote resulted:

AYES: Culver, Olshefski, Showers

NAYS: Russell

ABSTAIN: Kling

President Russell stated that the resolution had passed.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Board Appointment Nominations.

Councilman Showers nominated Freeman Holifield for

reappointment to the Solid Waste Disposal Authority of the City of Huntsville, Fifth Director, for a term to expire January 1, 2019.

Councilman Kling nominated Nancy Archuleta for reappointment to the Educational Building Authority of the City of Huntsville-John Paul II High School, for a term to expire November 11, 2019.

Councilman Kling nominated R. Timothy Jernigan for reappointment to the Educational Building Authority of the City of Huntsville-Holy Spirit, for a term to expire November 12, 2019.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Approval of Expenditures.

Councilman Kling read and introduced a resolution authorizing expenditures for payment, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-11)

Councilman Kling moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Kling asked Mr. Randy Taylor, City Finance Director, if he had a report at this time.

Mr. Taylor stated that he had preliminary figures for sales tax collections in December, noting that this would be for November sales. He stated that sales tax collection for the month of December was approximately 4.3 percent higher than the December report a year prior. He stated that this was

ahead of budget, noting that they had been at 4.2 percent for the first two months, so that this would put them right at 4.2 percent for the first three months. He stated that this put them in a good position as they headed toward the January collections, which was the month they really wanted to see.

Mr. Taylor stated that this was the only figure he had to report at this time, noting that it was too early in the fiscal year to see how the other revenues were performing.

Councilman Kling stated that he and Councilman Culver had had some contact with Mr. Taylor, noting that they were basically the Finance Committee, and that from time to time, they would have an issue that came up, such as when they had had discussion from the public concerning the sales tax issue, or if persons would have questions or concerns about the budget or would not understand certain things.

Councilman Kling stated that the Finance Committee would be holding a public forum in the Council Chambers, and that Mr. Taylor would present an overview of the budget, very similar to what he had done for the Council the prior September when he had submitted the budget document. He stated that after Mr. Taylor's presentation, they would open the meeting up for questions from the public, to see if they could clear up any misconceptions or lack of understanding that persons might have.

Councilman Kling stated that one thing he had heard was that persons felt there were enough sidewalks being constructed

in downtown Huntsville that the cost of these could have taken care of the \$125 million the City needed to match the State funds after the State had backed out of the original \$450 million road agreement with the City. He stated that they would discuss items such as this.

Councilman Kling stated that, basically, this would be a public-driven forum. He reiterated that Mr. Taylor would present a general overview of the budget. He continued that the budget was on the City's website so that persons could view this at any time they would like. He stated that at the meeting they would provide the opportunity for persons to ask questions and make comments, such as if the City was spending too much or too little on road resurfacing, et cetera. He stated that these would be things that the Council could take under advisement as they worked on budgets in the future. He reiterated that this would be an opportunity for the public to ask questions and find out whatever information they would like. He stated that it would be very informal, noting that they just wanted to give the public a chance to see the budget and ask questions. He stated that this would be coming up within the next several weeks.

Councilman Kling read and introduced a resolution approving travel for Councilman Will Culver to attend the 2014 Montgomery, Alabama, trip, February 11 & 12, 2014, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-12)

Councilman Kling moved for approval of the foregoing

resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution approving travel for Councilman Bill Kling to attend the 2014 Washington, D.C., trip, May 11-13, 2014, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-13)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution approving travel for Councilman Will Culver to attend the 2014 Washington, D.C., trip, May 11-13, 2014, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-14)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Kling stated that he would just like to clarify that the above trips were trips that the Council was doing with the Chamber of Commerce.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Communications from the Mayor. He recognized Mayor Battle.

Mayor Battle announced the following reappointment:

William Cheeks to the Advisory Commission on Accessibility, for a 3-year term, to expire January 10, 2017.

Mayor Battle stated that he would like to welcome Coach James Spady to the Alabama A&M Bulldogs family, noting

that he was the new head coach for Alabama A&M. He stated that he had met him earlier in the evening at a wonderful reception and that it was very nice to have him in the city.

Mayor Battle congratulated all the City employees who had worked very hard during the recent cold spell to assure that everyone was taken care of.

Mayor Battle wished everyone a happy and prosperous 2014.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Communications from Council members.

Councilman Kling wished everyone a very happy New Year.

Councilman Showers stated that on January 20 there would be the 29th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast and urged everyone to support this event.

Councilman Showers stated that he had recently received several calls concerning the Council districts and the School districts, noting that there were some citizens who did not understand there was a difference but that on the elective side the School boundaries and the Council boundaries were the same. He asked Mr. Joffrion if he could explain this matter to the public. He stated that there was some concern being expressed about some changes to be made in the school districts.

Mr. Joffrion stated that the voting districts, whereby members of the City Council and members of the School Board were elected, were identical, that these districts were determined by the City Council during the redistricting process after each Federal Decennial Census. He continued that the

Council had done this in 2011 and had determined the size of the five City Council member districts and School Board member districts.

Mr. Joffrion stated that this was not to be confused with the school zoning districts, noting that this was the geographic area that determined where children would go to school. He stated that this was a completely different geographic area than the elective districts, noting that such districts were determined by the School Board but were subject to approval by the Federal District Court.

Councilman Showers stated that the Mayor had already acknowledged the new Alabama A&M football coach, James Spady. He stated that he had extended to Coach Spady an invitation to come to the next meeting of the Council so that they could recognize him.

Councilman Showers asked if Chief Lewis Morris of the Police Department was present.

Councilman Showers stated to Chief Morris that it had been announced that there was a new Police Academy that was going to be formed and they would be in training and going through the procedure to become police officers. He asked Chief Morris how many persons had made the list for this academy.

Chief Morris stated that they would have an academy of 31 persons.

Councilman Showers inquired as to the total number of persons in the last academy that had been held.

Chief Morris stated that it was approximately 33.

Councilman Showers stated that he was aware they had come a long way in diversity in the City, in the Fire Department, and the Police Department. He asked Chief Morris how many persons in the current academy were black.

Chief Morris stated that there were two black males in this academy.

Councilman Showers asked Chief Morris if they had a recruiting committee.

Chief Morris replied in the affirmative, stating that they had a recruiting team consisting of 16 officers.

Councilman Showers asked if this committee remained the same annually or if it changed.

Chief Morris stated that this committee had been formed March 8, 2013. He stated that every year they reviewed the committee and some members stayed on the committee and, also, they gave the opportunity to other officers to become a member of this committee.

Councilman Showers asked who was responsible for appointing the persons who served on this recruiting committee.

Chief Morris stated that the recommendations were sent to him and that ultimately he approved them. He stated that the recommendations were sent to him through the process they had to determine who they would like to have on this committee.

Councilman Showers asked, concerning the officers who were working in other jurisdictions, such as in the universities and

colleges, as to how they were being recruited.

Chief Morris stated that they recruited laterally, that they had previously had lateral academies. He stated that they had a program where they could recruit a lateral individual. He stated that when a person graduated an academy and worked for an agency, they had to work for an agency for at least two years, or otherwise that agency, under State law, could bill the City of Huntsville for the cost they incurred to train these individuals, to get them to stay certified. He stated that they had had some very good minority applicants but they had not met the two-year requirement. He stated that hopefully they could get this academy going and take a look at where they were, the openings they had, and perhaps could actively recruit some lateral officers. He stated that if they could recruit a small class of lateral officers, that would give them a pretty good return, because they would be already State certified and they could give them a minimum amount of training and get them out in the field a lot quicker.

Councilman Showers asked where they were losing a lot of the men and women during the application process.

Chief Morris stated that each time they completed a process, they reviewed the entire process to determine where they had lost persons. He stated that they had not officially completed this at this time but stated that he could say that it appeared they had lost as many as 50 percent on the written examination, to even become eligible to participate in the

process.

Councilman Showers stated that several years prior it had been determined that the test given to individuals was a test that was not validated. He stated that his final question to Chief Morris was if they were looking at the validity of the test itself, when it came to men and women applying and 50 percent of the persons failing.

Chief Morris replied in the affirmative, stating that this was a video-type test, which was administered by Human Resources. He continued that part of their review was to review this entry-level test. He stated that the tests that were given were validated tests. He stated that they had had this test for a while and that it was most likely time to review the process. He continued that they would have to wait until the process was over to review the process, that they could not change it in the middle of a process. He stated that this was an excellent time to review the process.

Councilman Olshefski stated that he had been asked to announce that there would be a health care symposium, sponsored by Huntsville South, at Grissom High School on January 13 at 7 p.m. He stated that they were asking persons to be there at 6:30 p.m. to turn in questions. He stated that there would be a discussion of the Affordable Care Act, that there would be presentations by the administrators of both local hospitals, a representative of Blue Cross Blue Shield, a regulatory compliance attorney, and a private practice physician. He

stated that the symposium would address the healthcare delivery system operating within the new Affordable Care Act.

Councilman Olshefski stated to Mayor Battle that he and the other Council members were very aware of the work and effort that had gone into the Boeing matter, noting that they knew very well the amount of effort that had been put into this program and the hours that were put in for the City to win this. He stated that it was always good to have something like this on the shelf, so that when they chased the next one, there would be a lot of work that they would not have to do. He stated that he certainly appreciated what Mayor Battle had attempted to do on this.

Councilman Culver stated to the persons in the audience who had spoken on the homeless issue that this was certainly a special concern to him and that he had not stopped his emails on this situation during the recent extreme weather until he had felt comfortable that these persons were going to be taken care of. He stated that in a high-tech city such as Huntsville, they certainly could not afford to have someone freeze to death, that to him this was just unconscionable. He stated that he knew that Mr. Kenny Anderson, Mr. Hamilton, Mayor Battle, and other staff members had worked diligently on this issue. He stated that he remembered times when he had been a police officer that they would go to those same areas and check on homeless individuals during such critical times. He stated that he had a problem if persons would take their

pets in but the homeless could not be taken in. He stated that he felt comfortable that in the recent situation, they had done everything possible concerning this.

Councilman Culver stated that he was interested to learn more about the warming shelters and stated that he and Mr. Loiselle had been intending to get together and that he wanted to make sure they did this soon to talk more in depth about this matter.

Councilman Culver stated that he would also like to welcome Coach Spady to Alabama A&M University.

Councilman Culver stated to Pastor Johnson that what he had said earlier in the meeting was not something new, that he had discussed this matter with Pastor Johnson previously. He stated that this was not something relating to the tickets, stating that when they had looked into this situation previously, he knew that the statistical data was accurate because he had provided it to Pastor Johnson.

Councilman Culver stated that this was certainly not a reflection on the Court, noting that in some part he felt culpable for this because he had had citizens who had called him and asked if he could send the police. He stated that since Chief Morris had been Chief, however, he did not believe he had made any "patrol frequently" requests. He stated that he had done this at times as a result of requests from citizens. He stated that he had such a request at this time and had asked this person if they were sure they wanted this to

be done and had suggested that they look into some other calming devices before they would call in law enforcement. He continued that this was on a Oakwood Road, noting that this was a long road but was a residential road, and that persons were driving 40 and 50 miles per hour down this road.

Councilman Culver stated that he was willing to work with Pastor Johnson on whatever the City could provide as it related to this matter. He stated that a previous chief of police, Chief Hudson, had looked at the accidents and other things that were factored in. He stated to Pastor Johnson that anything that he needed in terms of statistical data, et cetera, they could get for him.

President Russell thanked the public for being so patient with the City about trash pickup in the current week, noting that there had been cold weather and equipment failures, so that the trash had not been picked up on Monday or Tuesday and had been moved forward.

President Russell asked Mr. Terry Hatfield, Director of Public Works, if he could explain what had happened and let the public know what would happen concerning this the remainder of the week.

Mr. Hatfield stated that they had about 40 trucks and that about 36 or 37 of them had had the brakes or hydraulics freeze, so that they had called off the trash and garbage pickup for Monday and Tuesday. He stated that they had resumed on the prior day and were running two days behind. He continued that

by Saturday everyone should have had their pickup.

Councilman Kling stated that he would like to commend the workers who had been involved in extra services during the week, noting that they certainly respected and appreciated the conditions and the hard work that the men were doing.

President Russell inquired of Mr. Shane Davis, Director of Urban Development, as to the status of the seven road projects that had been discussed in the prior Council meeting. He asked when this matter would be brought before the Council.

Mr. Davis stated that this was the first full week back from the holidays for the ALDOT staff, noting that they had made contact on the prior Monday to determine the status of the draft agreement. He continued that the draft agreement had been completed by the ALDOT staff and was on Director Cooper's desk and that they should have a draft copy in the City for review in the upcoming week and that hopefully they would bring the matter before the Council at the next meeting of the Council. He continued that they would circulate this to them prior to the meeting.

President Russell stated that he believed the public would also like to know when Director Cooper had signed the contracts and the matter was going to be brought before the Council.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was New Business Items for Introduction.

President Russell read and introduced Ordinance No. 14-15, annexing land lying on the west side of Old Big Cove Road and

on the north side of Buford Drive.

President Russell read and introduced Ordinance No. 14-16, annexing land lying east of Old Jim Williams Road and on the north side of Martin Road.

President Russell read and introduced Ordinance No. 14-17, amending Budget Ordinance No. 89-79, Classification and Salary Plan Ordinance.

President Russell read and introduced Ordinance No. 14-18, amending Budget Ordinance No. 13-630 to modify the authorized strength of a department.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was New Business Items for Consideration or Action.

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance declaring certain equipment surplus and to be sold at public auction, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 14-19)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute condemnation proceedings to acquire sanitary sewer easements and temporary construction easements for the Capshaw Extension Project, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-20)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling

and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute condemnation proceedings to acquire sanitary sewer easements and temporary construction easements for the WPC Relocation Project at County Line, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-21)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to invoke Progress Bank Letter of Credit No. 9000049300 for Legacy Preserve, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-22)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute the Master Agency Appropriation Agreement between the City of Huntsville and various agencies, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-23)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution

authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Agreement between the Madison County Commission and the City of Huntsville for salaries and fringe benefits reimbursement from the FY2013-2014 Strategic Counterdrug Team (STAC) grant, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-24)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell moved for approval of a request for authorization to advertise and fill two (2) Landscape Herbicide Spray Technicians and to fill at higher than minimum if necessary, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously approved.

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance to amend Budget Ordinance No. 12-768 by changing appropriated funding within various departments and funds, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 14-25)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing ordinance, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the acceptance of donations, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-26)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement for investment management services with PFM Asset Management, LLC, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-27)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to accept the low bid as specified in the attached Summary of Bids for Acceptance, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-28)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Tetra Tech, Inc., for Engineering Design Services for Big Cove Sewer, Project No. 65-07-SM04, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-29)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Geo Solutions, L.L.C., for Geotechnical Testing Services for Boeing Site at Huntsville/Madison County International Airport,

Project No. 65-14-SP07, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-30)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to amend the contract with Reed Contracting Services, Inc., for Rosalie Ridge Drive Drainage Improvements, Project No. 65-11-DM45, by Change Order No. 1, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-31)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to modify the agreement with Land Design Solutions, Inc., for Landscape Architectural Services for Gateway Greenway Phase II and Adjoining Parking Lot Development, Project No. 65-13-WP01, by Modification No. 1, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-32)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between the

City of Huntsville and FTI Consulting/C2 Group, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-33)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Community Action Partnership of Huntsville, Madison, and Limestone Counties, Inc., for homelessness prevention services, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-34)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an amendment to the 2012 Action Plan, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-35)

Councilman Showers moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Culver.

Councilman Showers stated that he had previously discussed this resolution with Mr. Ken Benion, Director of Community Development, but that he had another question at this time. He asked why it had been necessary to amend the 2012 Action Plan.

Mr. Benion stated that his department did an action plan

at the beginning of each HUD Fiscal Year, noting that this was a plan of what the Department intended to do for the year. He continued that if there were any changes made to this plan, they had to amend the Action Plan. He stated that they had not originally designated any money to go into the repair of transitional housing but that after they had looked at the money they had available and the condition of some of their transitional housing, they had decided they needed to do something to put it in better condition.

President Russell called for the vote on the above resolution, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Showers read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement between the City of Huntsville and Direct Communications, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-36)

Councilman Showers moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by President Russell.

Councilman Showers stated that he had a very small reason for asking that this resolution be held, noting that he did not want to deny anyone \$9,000. He stated that if one read the resolution, it said one thing and then there was a different figure. He stated that he wanted to make sure that it was noted that it was \$84,000 and not \$75,000, as indicated in the document the Council had. He stated that he did not want to see them short this commitment by \$9,000.

President Russell asked Mayor Battle if that was correct.

Mayor Battle stated that that was exactly correct. He thanked Councilman Showers for pointing this out.

President Russell stated that the Council would be voting on this matter in the amount of \$84,000.

President Russell called for the vote on the above resolution, and it was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Lease Termination Agreement between the City of Huntsville and Big Spring Partners, Inc., as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 14-37)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

President Russell asked Mr. Joffrion for an explanation of the above resolution.

Mr. Joffrion stated that the City owned the property under which the Holiday Inn was situated. He continued that at the time this property had been purchased from the former owners of the Holiday Inn, the vertical improvements had actually been conveyed to Big Spring Partners. He stated that Big Spring Partners had entered into a management agreement for the operation of the hotel with the ownership group that had formerly owned the hotel, for a period of 10 years. He stated that the revenues generated from the Hotel were not sufficient

to maintain the business as a viable hotel and that it was in everyone's best interest to go ahead and terminate the lease prior to the expiration of the 10-year period.

Mr. Joffrion stated that the agreement before the Council set forth the terms and conditions under which this termination would occur, including the satisfaction of obligations to the Holiday Inn parent organization for the franchise fee, and the liquidation of all fixtures, furniture, and equipment that were on site. He stated that after all the equipment had been sold off, the building and the land would be in the hands of the City of Huntsville, and it would be up to the Mayor and the Council to determine what to do with this property at that time.

President Russell called for the vote on the above resolution, and it was unanimously adopted.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Non-Roster Communications from the Public.

Pastor T.C. Johnson again appeared before the Council, stating, concerning the problem he had mentioned of excessive ticketing in certain ZIP codes, that the numbers he had were just persons ticketed, that they did not know exactly where they were ticketed, that the statistics just showed where these persons lived. He stated that if good research were done, they would see it did not really matter what ZIP code one was in, that the view was that it appeared that African Americans were profiled. He stated that he was aware of the target that

Chief Hudson had talked about some years ago based upon accidents, but noted that when he had checked with the Department of Transportation, he had not found that that justified what had been said at that time, nor did they find that at this time.

Pastor Johnson stated that it was not necessarily that the citations were going on in the ZIP codes he had mentioned, but it was that the persons who were being cited, wherever they were at the time within the city, were from these ZIP codes. He stated that it did not matter where one lived in the city, that when one looked at the statistics, one could see that an African American was going to be more likely to be cited. He stated that that was the issue he had raised.

Pastor Johnson stated that he was again making his annual request for information. He stated to Mr. Joffrion that he would like a copy of the City payroll, a listing giving the total number of officers, by demographics, in the Fire Department and the Police Department; and traffic citations for the entire year. He stated that at this time this would be for just one year because he had the prior years' figures. He stated that he would also like a copy of the City workforce analysis, of permanent employees, and a copy of the workforce analysis of temporary hires. He stated that he was not sure who to submit the request to.

Ms. Jackie Reed again appeared before the Council, stating that she heard that someone was wanting to change the name of

the "Rocket City." She stated that they should not even think about this. She stated that she had heard this at work, noting that she heard everything at work, from everybody.

Ms. Tara Bunyan again appeared before the Council, stating that she just wanted to comment on Mayor Battle's comments as to what was done concerning the homeless persons during the recent cold weather, that she would like to make a suggestion on this. She stated that the trepidation persons felt at locations such as Tent City when officers came by might be a possible reason these persons had not wanted to go with the officers. She stated that if there was another cold spell and the City would like to possibly round up the homeless and take them to a warming shelter, they might want to consider doing this by some means other than uniformed police officers.

Upon motion, duly seconded, it was voted to adjourn.

PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK-TREASURER